

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

## NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

United States Patent and Trademark  
Office  
(Box PCT)  
Crystal Plaza 2  
Washington, DC 20231  
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

<b>Date of mailing (day/month/year)</b> 15 September 1998 (15.09.98)	
<b>International application No.</b> PCT/US98/01119	<b>Applicant's or agent's file reference</b> C10BRAD1-PCT
<b>International filing date (day/month/year)</b> 05 January 1998 (05.01.98)	<b>Priority date (day/month/year)</b> 28 January 1997 (28.01.97)
<b>Applicant</b> OBRADOVICH, Michael, L. et al	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

11 August 1998 (11.08.98)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:2. The election ☒ was☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO  
34, chemin des Colombettes  
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

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Authorized officer

N. Fischer

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## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT


REC'D 15 JUL 1999

WIPO PCT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference CIOBRADI-PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US98/01119	International filing date (day/month/year) 05 JANUARY 1998	Priority date (day/month/year) 28 JANUARY 1997
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Please See Supplemental Sheet.		
Applicant CALCAR ADVERTISING, INC.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>9</u> sheets. <input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority. (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of <u>0</u> sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability IV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 11 AUGUST 1998	Date of completion of this report 14 JUNE 1999
Name and mailing address of the IPEA US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231	Authorized officer  JACQUES H. LOUIS-JACQUES
Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Telephone No. (703) 308-1113

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US98/01119

**I. Basis of the report**

1. This report has been drawn on the basis of *(Substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments)*:

- ☒ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description, pages 1-46 , as originally filed.  
pages NONE , filed with the demand.  
pages NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.  
pages \_\_\_\_\_ , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ the claims, Nos. 1-128 , as originally filed.  
Nos. NONE , as amended under Article 19.  
Nos. NONE , filed with the demand.  
Nos. NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.  
Nos. \_\_\_\_\_ , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☒ the drawings, sheets/~~fig~~ 1-17 , as originally filed.  
sheets/~~fig~~ NONE , filed with the demand.  
sheets/~~fig~~ NONE , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.  
sheets/~~fig~~ \_\_\_\_\_ , filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☒ the description, pages none .
- ☒ the claims, Nos. none .
- ☒ the drawings, sheets/~~fig~~ none .

3. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the ~~Supplemental Box~~ Additional observations below (Rule 70.2(c)).

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

NONE

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US98/01119

**IV. Lack of unity of invention**

1. In response to the invitation to restrict or pay additional fees the applicant has:

- ☐ restricted the claims.
- ☒ paid additional fees.
- ☐ paid additional fees under protest.
- ☐ neither restricted nor paid additional fees.

2. ☐ This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied with and chose, according to Rule 68.1, not to invite the applicant to restrict or pay additional fees.

3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is

- ☐ complied with.
- ☒ not complied with for the following reasons:

Please See Supplemental Sheet.

4. Consequently, the following parts of the international application were the subject of international preliminary examination in establishing this report:

- ☒ all parts.
- ☐ the parts relating to claims Nos. . .

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US98/01119

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement****1. STATEMENT**

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>(Please See supplemental sheet)</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>(Please See supplemental sheet)</u>	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims	<u>(Please See supplemental sheet)</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>(Please See supplemental sheet)</u>	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>(Please See supplemental sheet)</u>	YES
	Claims	<u>(Please See supplemental sheet)</u>	NO

**2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS**

Claims 1-14, 18-27, 29-116, 126-128 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Schaefer et al, US Pat. 4,731,769.

Schaefer et al discloses a central servicing and information controller for vehicle auxiliary equipment for the control of a plurality of optional instruments in a vehicle having a display for displaying information and an option menu. Schaefer et al discloses selecting an option wherein the option menu indicates the functions of the optional instruments (items) controllable by the control unit. The system according to Schaefer et al accesses at least one function of the system. As described in column 3, Schaefer et al discloses control keys assigned to menu fields and the elements thereof, wherein the elements indicating the functions that can be operated by means of respective control keys. The display of Schaefer et al can be a Braun tube or a flat display. See column 2. Further in column 5, Schaefer et al discloses that "this system is a touch-sensitive display screen where a place of touch can be localized on its surface (touch screen) so that the control keys can be shown individually on the screen as virtual touch keys or touch fields." Still in column 5, Schaefer et al discloses the framing or underlining for indicating the selected options and items. This can also be indicated by a light-dark contrast. Also, there is provided some kind of indicator, like an arrow. In column 6, Schaefer et al discloses a voice output for vocally explaining the functions. While Schaefer et al does not specifically teach a mouse device, such is well known in the art. Therefore it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to be motivated to modify the teachings of Schaefer et al because such modification will provide a more favorable ergonomic design while allowing an operator to obtain external information concerning the vehicle.

Claims 15-17, 28 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Nigawara, US Pat. 4,914,705.

Nigawara discloses a voice message announcing method and system for plant including an identifying unit for identifying plant site operating conditions on the basis of information signals indicative of the operating conditions at plant sites. A (Continued on Supplemental Sheet.)

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US98/01119

**Supplemental Box**

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: Boxes I - VIII

Sheet 10

**CLASSIFICATION:**

The International Patent Classification (IPC) and/or the National classification are as listed below:

IPC(6): G06F 7/70; G06G 7/76; B60Q 1/00; G01S 13/00; B60L 1/00, 3/00; B60K 31/00; G01R 1/00, 31/00 and US Cl.: 701/29, 32, 33, 35, 36, 24, 211; 340/436, 438, 439, 459, 996, 825.4, 825.51; 307/10.1, 10.6, 10.7; 342/70, 455/517, 38.2., 67.7; 180/170, 333, 335, 336

**IV. LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION:**

3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rules 13.1, 13.2, and 13.3 is not complied with for the following reasons:

As applicant was previously notified this International Preliminary Examining Authority has found plural inventions claimed in the International Application covered by the claims indicated below:

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid.

Group I, claim(s) 1-14, 18-27, 29-116, 126-128, drawn to a system for accessing information about a vehicle.

Group II, claim(s) 15-17 and 28, drawn to a system for providing messages of varying importance levels in a vehicle..

Group III, claim(s) 117-118, drawn to a method for storing a preferred setting of at least one function in a vehicle.

Group IV, claim(s) 119-120, drawn to a method for adjusting climate control in a vehicle.

Group V, claim(s) 121-125, drawn to an apparatus for detecting a removal of an object.

and it considers that the International Application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention (Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3) for the reasons indicated below:

The inventions listed as Groups I, II, III, IV and V do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: the inventions in the different groups as classified above require different searches.

**V. 1. REASONED STATEMENTS:**

The report as to Novelty was positive (YES) with respect to claims 1-14, 18-27, 29-116, 119-120, 126-127.

The report as to Novelty was negative (NO) with respect to claims 15-17, 28, 117-118, 121-125, 128.

The report as to Inventive Step was positive (YES) with respect to claims 1-14, 18-27, 29-116, 119-120, 126-127.

The report as to Inventive Step was negative (NO) with respect to claims 15-17, 28, 117-118, 121-125, 128.

The report as to Industrial Applicability was positive (YES) with respect to claims 1-128.

The report as to Industrial Applicability was negative (NO) with respect to claims NONE.

**V. 2. REASONED STATEMENTS - CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS (Continued):**

voice message signal generating unit determining plant site operating instruction signals on the basis of the identified plant operating conditions and converting the determined instruction signals into corresponding voice message signals. There is also provided an announcing order determining unit for determining the order of announcement of the voice message signals and an output selecting unit for sequentially applying the voice message signals to the message signal output unit in the determined order.. As set forth in column 1, the priority order (or level of importance) of announcement of voice message signals generated from the plurality of voice message announcing devices is determined according to their importance. Nigawara states the announcing devices can be speakers.

Claims 117-118 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Ito et al, US Pat. 4,419,730.

**Supplemental Box**

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: Boxes I - VIII

Sheet 11

Ito et al discloses a method and system for controlling the setting temperature of a vehicle air conditioner. Ito et al discloses that based on a preferred setting a microprocessor operates the system and determines whether the current setting has been changed, if so store the new setting. see column 3.

Claims 119-120 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Hassan, US Pat. 3,582,926.

Hassan discloses a temperature indicating and warning system utilizing thermocouple heat sensors connected through cabling to individual amplifying and readout facilities at a remote location and equipped with means for compensating for changes in ambient temperature at the cold junction. While Hassan does not specifically teach the location determination, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to include the position determination of the aircraft in the Hassan teachings because it will provide a more accurate and efficient climate or temperature control and informing the pilot of the location of aircraft for safety maneuver.

Claims 121-125 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Swanson.

Swanson discloses a method and system for sensing the removal of a utility meter (object) from its socket. Swanson discloses that presence of the meter can be sensed either optically or by a position responsive switch. There is provided a microprocessor responsive to the position signals to determine whether the object has been removed. There is also provided an indication (or an alert) when it is determined that the object has been removed.

## ----- NEW CITATIONS -----

NONE

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US98/01119

1

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(6) :Please See Extra Sheet.

US CL :Please See Extra Sheet.

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 701/29, 32, 33, 35, 36, 24; 340/436, 438, 439, 459; 307/10.1, 10.6, 10.7; 342/70, 455/517, 38.2., 67.7; 180/170, 333, 335, 336

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

APS, STN

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,257,190 A (CRANE) 26 October 1993; columns 1-14 and figures.	1-14, 18-27, 29-116, 126-128
Y	US 5,450,321 A (CRANE) 12 September 1995, columns 1-22 and figures.	1-14, 18-27, 29-116, 126-128
Y	US 4,731,769 A (SCHAEFER et al) 15 March 1988, columns. 1-10 and figures	1-14, 18-27, 29-116, 126-128
Y	US 5,006,829 A (MIYAMOTO et al) 09 April 1991, columns 1-22 and figures	1-14, 18-27, 29-116, 126-128
Y	US 4,401,848 A (TSUNODA) 30 August 1983, columns 1-8 and figures	15-17, 28

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.
 ☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
*E* earlier document published on or after the international filing date	*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
*L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	*Z* document member of the same patent family
*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
16 JULY 1998	14 AUG 1998
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer <i>H. Leon M. [Signature]</i> JACQUES H. LOUIS-JACQUES Telephone No. (703) 308-1113



## C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,450,613 A (TAKAHARA et al) 12 September 1995, columns 36 and figures	15-17, 28
Y	US 4,914,705 A (NIGAWARA) 03 April 1990, columns 1-8 and figures	15-17, 28
Y	US 4,314,232 A (TSUNODA) 02 February 1982, columns 1-10 and figures	15-17, 28
X,E	US 5,777,394 A (AROLD) 07 July 1998, columns 1-4 and figures	117-118
Y	US 5,335,743 A (GILLBRAND et al) 09 August 1994, columns 1-18 and figures	117-118
Y	US 4,419,730 A (ITO et al) 06 December 1983, columns 1-12 and figures	117-120
Y	US 5,511,724 A (FREIBERGER et al) 30 April 1996, columns 1-14 and figures	117-120
Y	US 3,582,926 A (HASSAN) 01 June 1971, columns 1-8 and figures	119-120
Y	US 5,523,559 A (SWANSON) 04 June 1996, columns 1-8 and figures	121-125
Y	US 5,293,115 A (SWANSON) 08 March 1994, columns 1-8 and figures	121-125
Y	US 5,422,565 A (SWANSON) 06 June 1995, columns 1-8 and figures	121-125

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

IPC (6):

G06F 7/70; G06G 7/76; B60Q 1/00; G01S 13/00; B60L 1/00, 3/00; B60K 31/00; G01R 1/00, 31/00

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

US CL :

701/29, 32, 33, 35, 36, 24; 340/436, 438, 439, 459; 307/10.1, 10.6, 10.7; 342/70, 455/517, 38.2., 67.7; 180/170, 333, 335, 336

## BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION WAS LACKING

This ISA found multiple inventions as follows:

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be searched, the appropriate additional search fees must be paid.

Group I, claim(s) 1-14, 18-27, 29-116, 126-128, drawn to a system for accessing information about a vehicle.

Group II, claim(s) 15-17 and 28, drawn to a system for providing messages of varying importance levels in a vehicle.

Group III, claim(s) 117-118, drawn to a method for storing a preferred setting of at least one function in a vehicle.

Group IV, claim(s) 119-120, drawn to a method for adjusting climate control in a vehicle.

Group V, claim(s) 121-125, drawn to an apparatus for detecting a removal of an object.

The inventions listed as Groups I, II, III, IV, and V do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: the inventions in the different groups as classified above require different searches.

**Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)**

This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

**Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

Please See Extra Sheet.

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.